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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT NO. 00-W-24108

CD NO. --

COUNTRY	Algeria; Spain; French Equatorial Africa	DATE OF INFORMATION	1952
SUBJECT	Military - Unconventional aircraft	DATE DIST.	27 Sep 1952
HOW PUBLISHED	Daily and thrice-weekly newspapers		
WHERE PUBLISHED	Tangier; Conakry; Oran; Casablanca	NO. OF PAGES	4
DATE PUBLISHED	22 Apr - 1 Aug 1952	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	
LANGUAGE	Spanish; French		

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

"SAUCERS" SIGHTED OVER SPAIN AND FRENCH AFRICA

GLOWING SPHERES SEEN OVER ALMANSA, SPAIN -- Tangier, Espana, 22 Apr 52

Almansa, 21 April -- At 0800 hours today, many persons saw a series of four glowing spheres crossing the sky along the Murcia-Valencia trajectory at high speed and at a great height. The spheres looked like locks of wool of a vivid reddish color which changed to an intense yellow as they flew farther away. They gradually disappeared in the distance. No unusual sound was heard. The spectacle lasted hardly a minute.

ANDUJAR RESIDENTS REPORT SAUCER -- Tangier, Espana, 1 Aug 52

The Cifra news agency reports that on the night of 30 July 1952, many residents of Andujar, Spain, saw what was presumed to be a so-called flying saucer. The object was red, round, and approximately the size of a desert dish. If flew noiselessly, at great speed, and left behind a long trail of very bright greenish light.

LUMINOUS OBJECT SEEN OVER PORT GENTIL -- Conakry, La Guinee Francaise, 26 Jun 52

The master of a cargo ship anchored in front of the wharf of Port Gentil [in Gabon, French Equatorial Africa] reported that at 0240 hours on 1 June 1952 a mysterious object came up from the area behind Port Gentil, made a double loop, passed over the roadstead, and then dived toward the sea at great speed. He submitted the report to the local authorities and to the administrative offices of his company. The following is a summary of his story.

On 1 June 1952 at 0240 hours, the ship was riding at anchor in the roadstead of Port Gentil, heading 150 degrees. The northern sky was clear and starry; the southern, slightly cloudy. Visibility was excellent, a slight southwest breeze prevailed, and the sea was calm. There was a quarter moon.

ARCHIVAL RECORD
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CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION						
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI								

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION FROM

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REPORT NO. OO-W-25291

CD NO. [redacted]

COUNTRY	French West Africa; Algeria; Corsica; France; West Germany	DATE OF INFORMATION	1952
SUBJECT	Military - Unconventional aircraft		
HOW PUBLISHED	Daily, thrice-weekly newspapers	DATE DIST.	9 Feb 1953
WHERE PUBLISHED	Dakar; Algiers; Casablanca; Conakry	NO. OF PAGES	3
DATE PUBLISHED	3 Jul - 20 Nov 1952	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	
LANGUAGE	French		

[redacted]

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

REPORTS OF UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT IN FRENCH AFRICA, CORSICA, AND WESTERN EUROPE

STRANGE OBJECT SIGHTED OVER DAKAR -- Dakar, Paris-Dakar, 3 Jul 52

On the morning of 3 July 1952, precisely at 0608 hours, the technical manager of the broadcasting station at Hann Center observed an unusual object following a strange path above Dakar. The object was clearly visible for about 5 seconds against a clear and no longer starry sky.

The witness was on Route de Front de Terre, when, looking south toward Dakar and above the Centre de Reception (Reception Center), he spotted a flat but tapered object emitting rather long, reddish streaks of light with a bluish tinge.

The fiery object was moving at "a dizzy speed," which he estimated to be "two or three times greater than that of the fastest planes." It moved from west to east and disappeared with a swoop upwards, according to the witness, who believes that the object was about 1,500 meters high when he first noticed it, though he admits that it was difficult to judge its approximate altitude.

[The following editorial comment by Paris-Dakar followed the above report:]

The staff reporter of Paris-Dakar is of the opinion that the object in question was a meteor and that it disappeared in a downward, not upward, trajectory.

UNUSUAL OBJECT SEEN OVER ORAN -- Dakar, Paris-Dakar, 4 Jul 52

On 3 July 1952, at 1900 hours, a mechanic on his way home to a suburb of Oran, Algeria, noticed in the direction of the Senia airport a silvery disk which was maneuvering slowly and apparently revolved rapidly. After 3 minutes, the object disappeared toward the sea, west of Oran. The witness reported that the object was small and that it was not shaped like a balloon or plane. At the local weather station, it was stated that no balloons had been released at the time.

ARCHIVAL RECORD
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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE 6

CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION						
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI								

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The first mate was at his forward post ready to weigh anchor while the master was on the bridge with the officer on duty. With the exception of the mooring lights, the ship was in complete darkness, thus permitting excellent night visibility.

At 0240, the first mate telephoned the master informing him that he had just sighted an unknown luminous object in the sky which came from Port Gentil and passed directly over the ship. Training his binoculars (Zeiss 7 x 50, for night vision) skyward, the master was able to see quite clearly, on the port quarter, a very bright and phosphorescent orange light, circular in shape and moving at a great speed in a seemingly straight-line course. Standing on the wing of the bridge, and with the aid of the gyrocompass repeater, the master estimated its average direction to be about 10 degrees.

He followed the light quite easily in his binoculars for about 3 minutes and lost sight of it when it moved at great speed over the Prince buoy, about 7 miles from the ship. The master was unaware of any accompanying sound and admits that it was difficult to estimate the altitude of the object, yet he judged this to be 3,000-4,000 meters. Its diameter was that of a planet.

The first mate stated that before he telephoned the master, he saw that object come from the direction of Port Gentil, stop, make a right turn, and resume its initial course. As it passed directly over the ship, it repeated the same sort of gyration.

The master stated that his 20 years of sea duty enabled him to affirm that what he saw was neither a known celestial phenomenon, such as a falling star or meteor, nor a current type of aircraft.

Furthermore, it was confirmed that there were no planes in the air that night over Port Gentil.

STRANGE OBJECTS SEEN IN SKY OVER ALGERIA -- Oran L'Echo d'Oran, 17 Jul 52

At 2300 hours on 15 July 1952, in the town of Boukanefis, two bakers clearly saw a plate-shaped flying object in the sky. It moved with unusual agility, giving off a greenish smoke and lighting up the sky. It seemingly did not alter its course as it increased its speed and disappeared toward the south.

Similarly, in Lamoriciere on 11 July 1952, one Thomas Martinez saw a sudden illumination above and at first took it to be a falling star. Actually, it seemed more like a meteor followed by two other bodies, all trailing a yellow cloud of smoke. Then, these disappeared and out of nowhere appeared an oval-shaped, longish ball of fire. Flying at a low altitude and clearly visible, it rapidly followed a rectilinear course.

STRANGE PHENOMENON WITNESSED FROM TWO POINTS IN ORAN -- Oran, L'Echo d'Oran, 26 Jul 52

Recently [presumably 25 July 1952], several inhabitants of Oran reported seeing a flying saucer at approximately the same time.

At 1535 hours, Raoul Le Henaff, foreman of a local company, saw an incandescent white mass in the sky above Oran. It flew southwestward, traveling at an altitude of about 2,000 meters. There was no luminous exhaust and no smoke. After 30 seconds, the phenomenon grew hazy and disappeared. The personnel of the company office and Palacio, an employee in the Algeronaphte [factory?] also saw the "saucer."

ALGERIAN WEATHER BUREAU CHIEF DISCOUNTS SAUCER REPORTS -- Dakar, Paris-Dakar, 7 Aug 52

The director of the Algerian weather bureau stated recently that the "flying saucers" seen recently over Algiers were only weather balloons which are sent up each evening between 2000 and 2030 hours from the weather stations at Maison Blanche, Blida, and Boufarik. He said that in their underbellies, the balloons carry a luminous device which, together with the motion of the balloons as they are buffeted by the wind, must have made them seem like "flying saucers" to the spectators.

LUMINOUS OBJECT SIGHTED OVER CORSICA -- Algiers, L'Echo d'Alger, 4 Oct 52

On 2 October 1952, at about 2000 hours, several people in Corsica observed a spindle-shaped, luminous object traveling noiselessly in the sky. They said that it was headed from southwest to northeast and was visible for about one minute.

DESCRIBE UNUSUAL OBJECT FLYING ALONG ALGERIAN COASTLINE -- Algiers, L'Echo d'Alger, 7 Oct 52

On 6 October 1952, at 1830 hours, a luminous object was seen flying for several seconds along the western coastline of Algeria, above Sidi Ferruch and Saint Eugene. Numerous witnesses described it as cigar-shaped and enveloped in orange flames.

MANY WITNESS "FLYING SAUCER" FORMATION IN TARN, FRANCE -- Casablanca, Maroc-Presse, 29 Oct 52

About 100 inhabitants of Gaillac (Department of Tarn, France) reported witnessing a "flying saucer" formation at about 1600 hours on 27 October 1952. The objects were said to have been 16 in number, ranged in twos, and disk-shaped, except for a swelling in the center. According to the report, they revolved giving off a bluish light at the sides.

The spectators said that they also saw a kind of elongated cylinder, a "flying cigar," traveling in the center of the saucer formation. All the objects were said to have discharged shining whitish particles, which looked like glass wool and accumulated on tree branches and telegraph wires. Many persons said that they had been able to gather clusters of such particles, but that these had quickly disintegrated, making it impossible to have them analyzed later in a laboratory.

The weather conditions were reported as ideal for observation. The mysterious objects, which had come from the southeast, reportedly remained in the area about 10 minutes and then continued on their way in a straight line.

INVENTOR IN WEST GERMANY PERFECTS "FLYING SAUCER" -- Conakry, La Guinee Francaise, 20 Nov 52

The first patent for a "flying saucer" was recently applied for in West Germany by Rudolf Schriever, a former pilot, who claimed to have perfected an "elliptical flying object" after 11 years of research.

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